

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 have been amended. Claim 6 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1-5 and 7-10 are currently pending.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority and receipt of the priority document.

35 U.S.C. §102

Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Aoki et al.

The present invention is directed to detecting data synchronization, which is important in subsequent code demodulation, for example. According to the invention, data synchronization detection is performed using code-modulated data, specifically using a specified bit sequence pattern. See page 6, lines 9-20 of the present specification, for example.

As set forth in claim 1, the identified output of code-modulated reproduced data is stored and the number of occurrences of a specified bit pattern in a bit sequence of the identified output is counted in an arbitrary bit period. Codeword partitions of the code-modulated reproduced data based on the number of occurrences of a specified bit pattern are identified and the stored identified output is output in synchronization with the identified codeword partitions. As set forth in claim 7, the method includes scrambling data by two or more types of scramblers and recording data by code-modulation of data scrambled by the scrambler which has been determined to be configured for specifying the position of the code-modulation codeword partition. According to the present invention, therefore, there is no need to employ a data synchronization signal as conventionally employed and consequently the format efficiency is improved. See page 6, lines 22-24 of the present specification.

Aoki is relied upon for disclosing data synchronization detection. The Office Action refers to the background of the invention section of the reference, which describes synchronism detection that includes sync pattern detecting by

a sync pattern detecting circuit 503 shown in Fig. 5. The data synchronization signal described with reference to Fig. 25 by Applicants in the background of the invention section of the present application is equivalent to the sync pattern discussed by Aoki. As aforementioned, there is no need to employ a data synchronization signal in the present invention and therefore the description cited in the Office Action in Aoki does not describe the method of detecting data synchronization or method of recording information claimed by Applicants in claims 1-5 and 7-10. Accordingly, the reference does not anticipate the pending claims of the present application and the rejection should be withdrawn.

### **35 U.S.C. §112 and Objections to Claims**

Claims 1, 2 and 7 have been amended to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection and claim objections noted in the Office Action.

### **Drawings**

Fig. 25 has been corrected to include "Prior Art".

Abstract

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been rewritten to avoid using the word "means", as required.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants contend that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and reexamination is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Mattingly", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

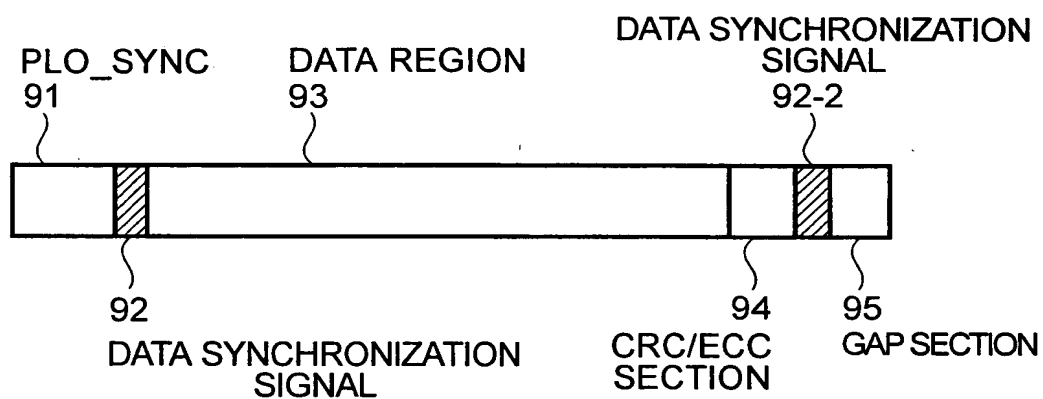
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**FIG.25**

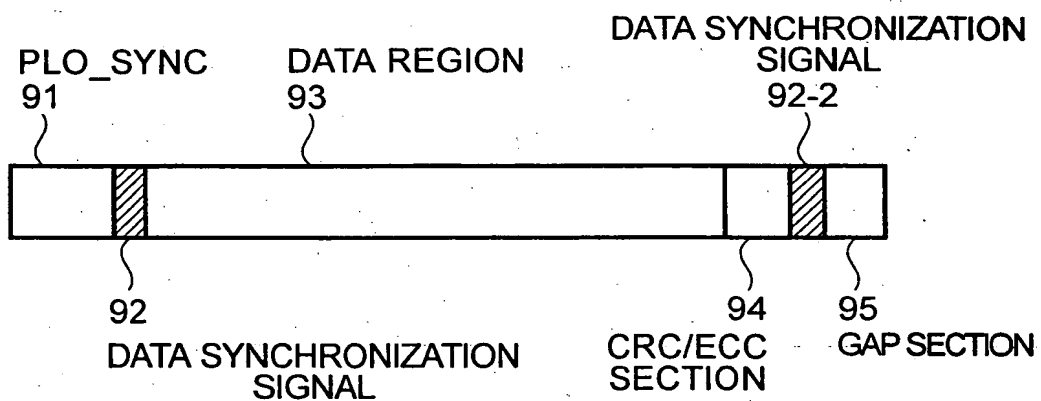


PRIOR ART



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FIG.25



PRIOR ART